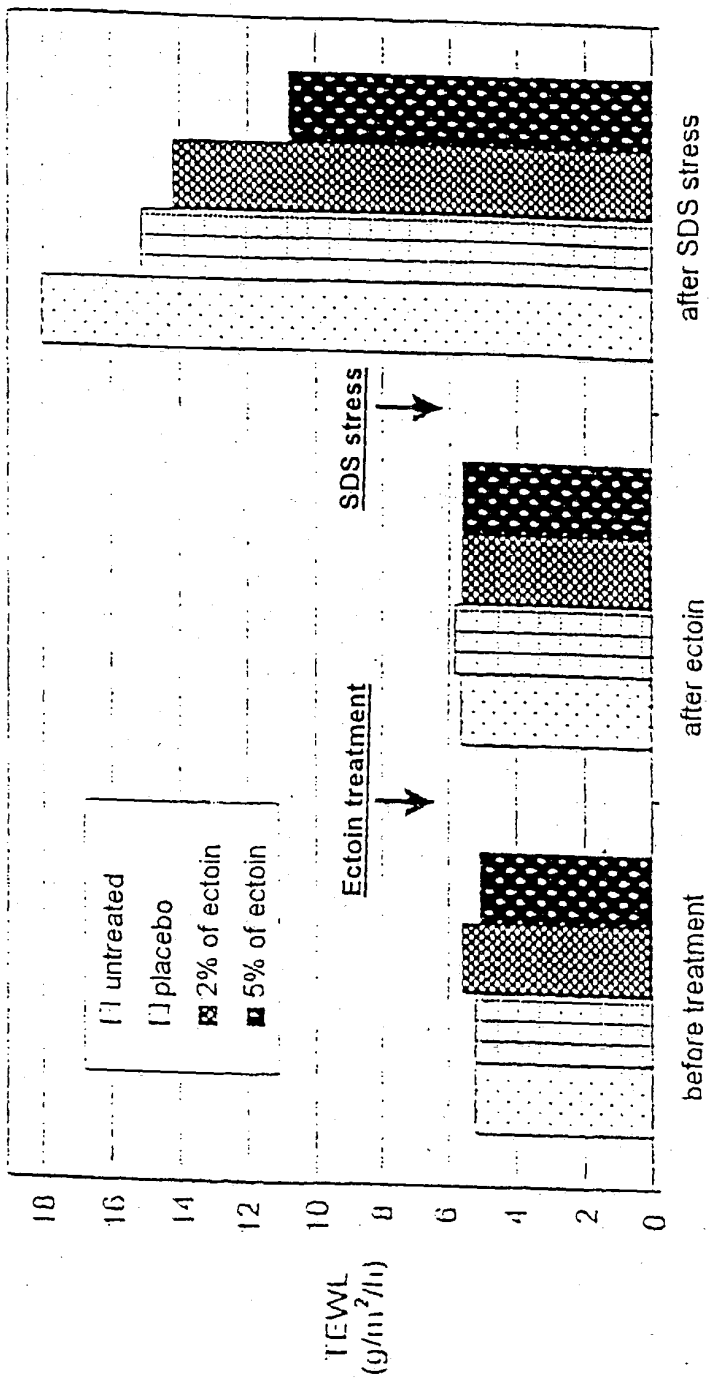


Fig. 1 In vivo determination of the transepidermal water loss (TEWL) following damage to the skin barrier by SDS treatment

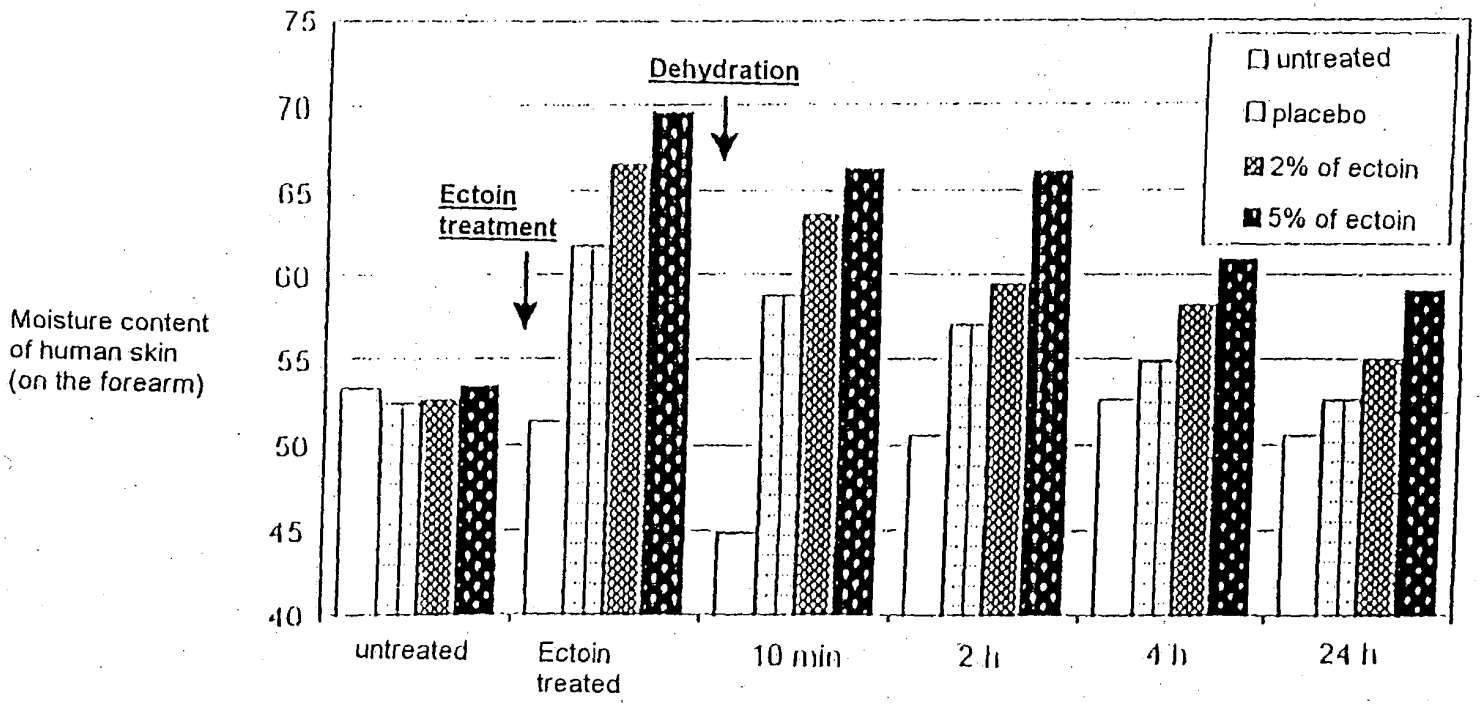


Figure 2: In vivo determination of the skin moisture after ectoin treatment and dehydration by means of silica gel

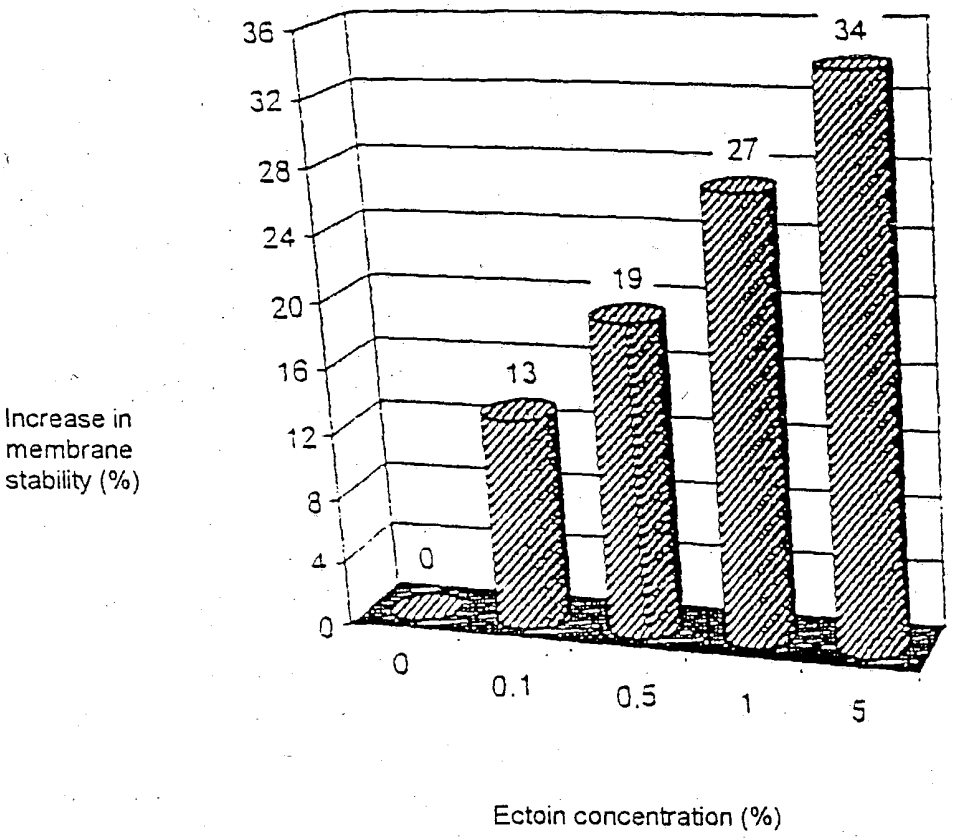


Fig. 3 Determination of the membrane-stabilizing action of human erythrocytes pretreated with ectoin against SDS

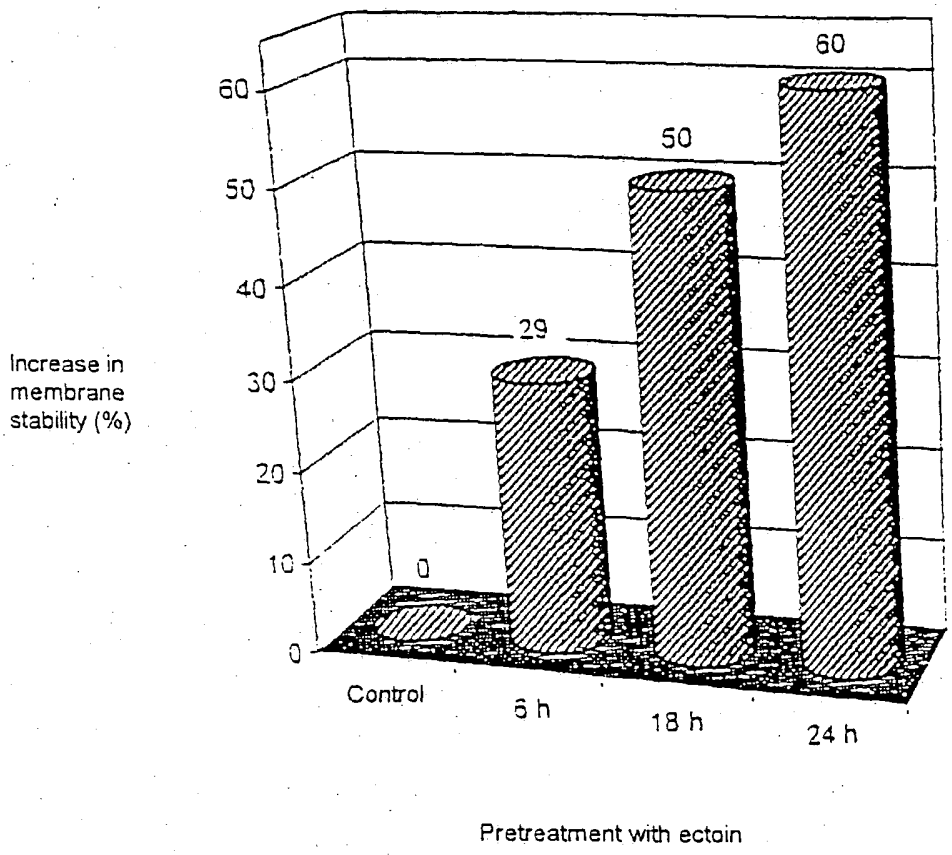


Fig. 4 Determination of the membrane-stabilizing action of human erythrocytes pretreated with ectoin against SDS

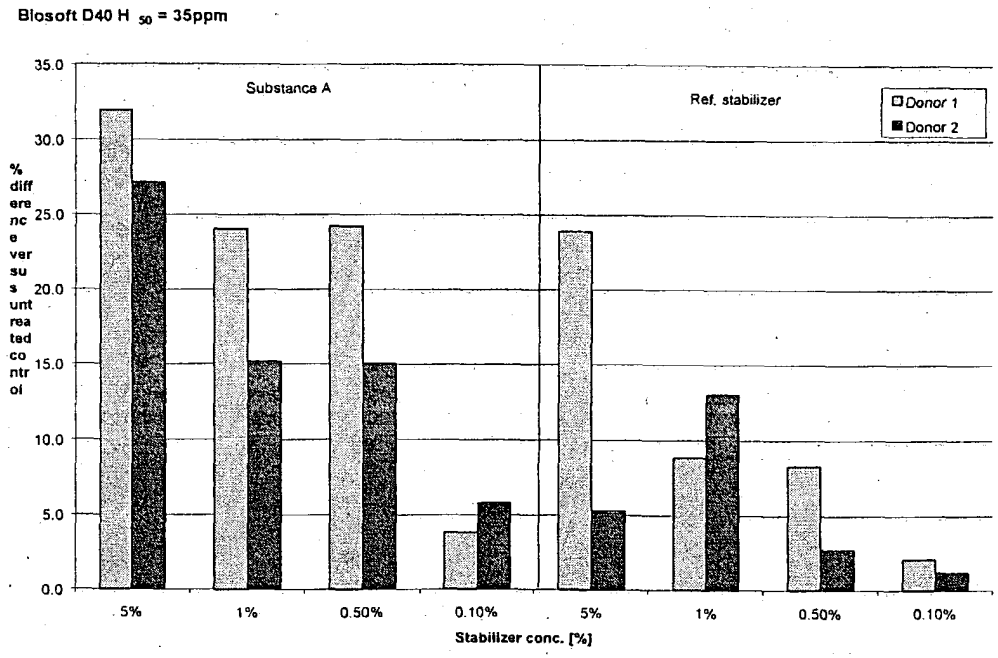


**Figure 5 :** *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant $H_{50}$ was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

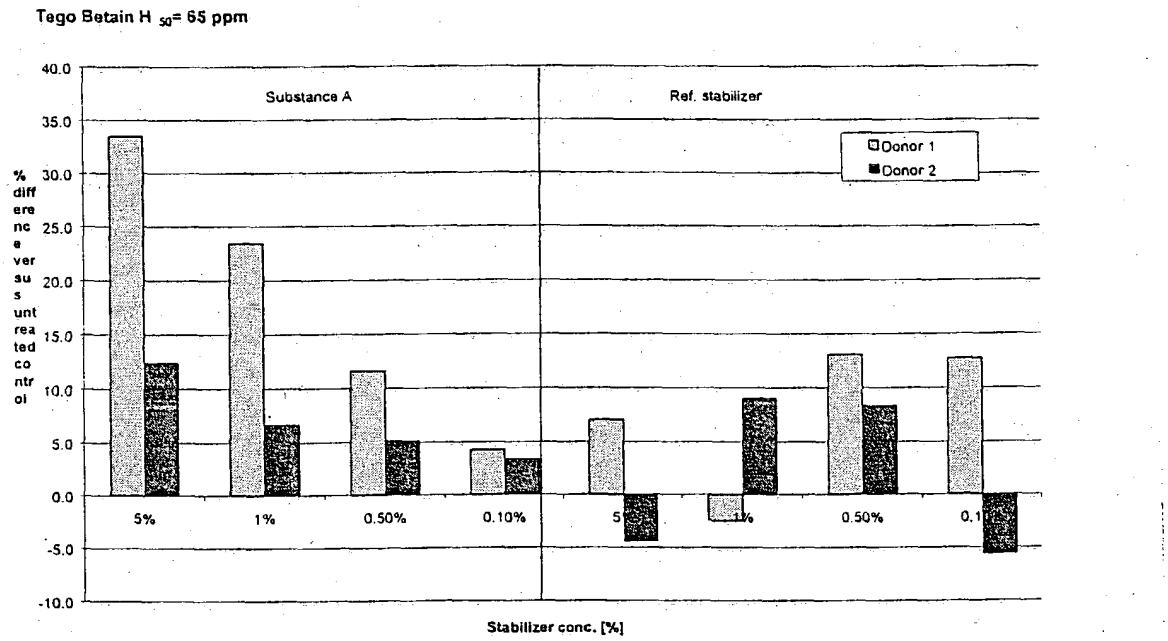


**Figure 6:** *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant $H_{50}$ was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

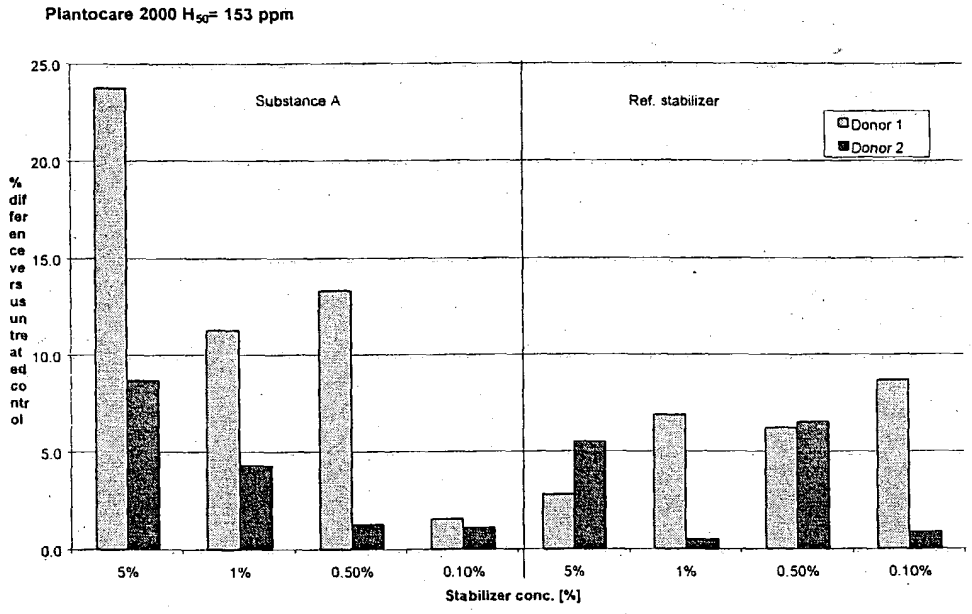


**Figure 7**: *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant $H_{50}$ was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

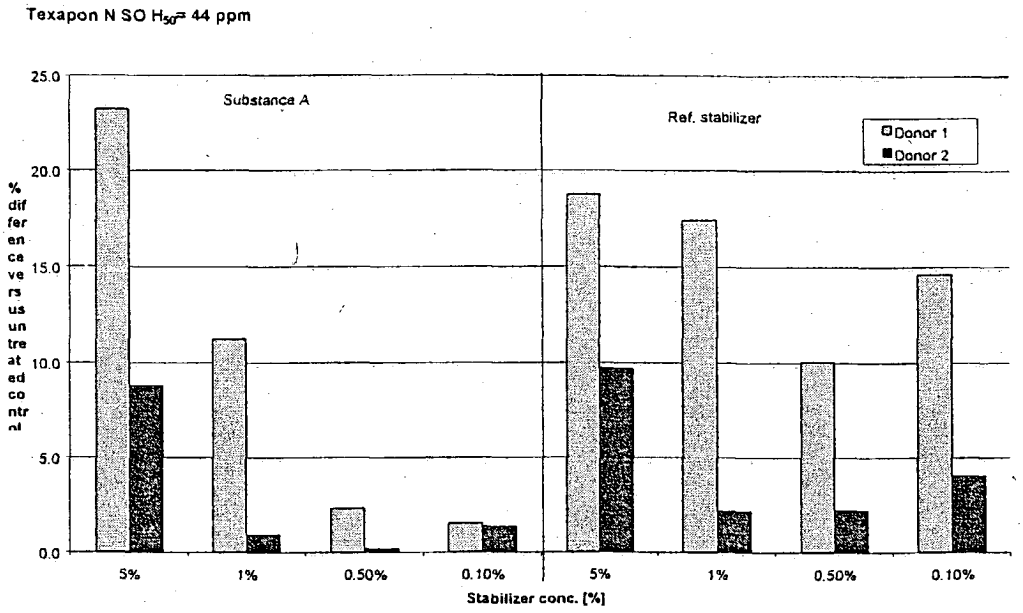


**Figure 8**: *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant $H_{50}$ was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.

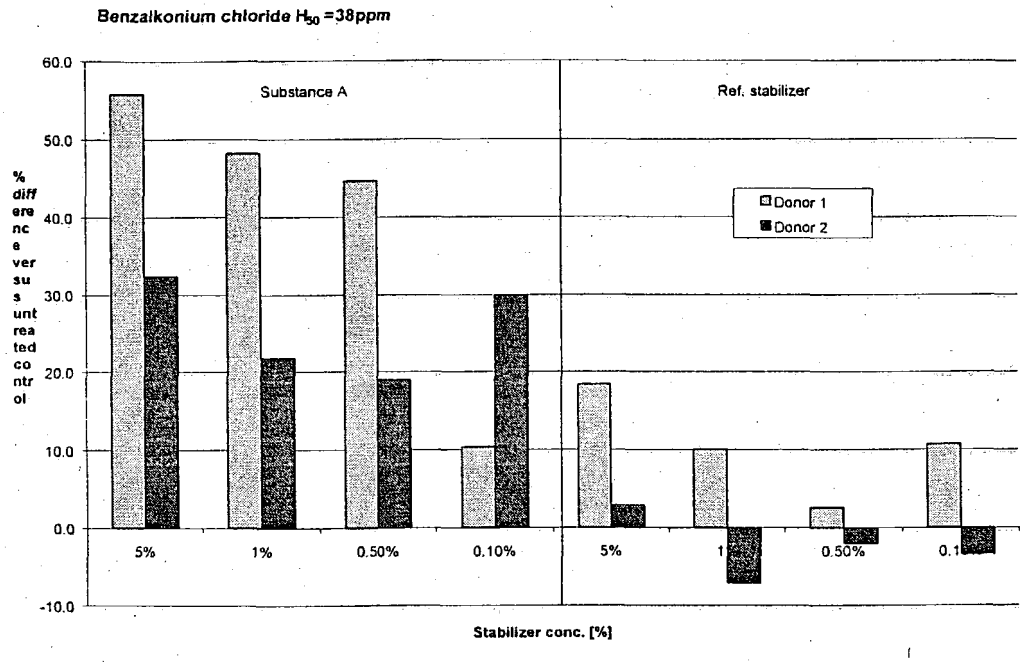


**Figure 9** : *Determination of the membrane-stabilizing properties of Substance A and reference stabilizer after 1 hour's RBC preincubation.* The figure depicts the change in RBC membrane stability (2 donors) versus untreated control. The surfactant $H_{50}$ was used as lytic agent. Data are reported as the mean of 2 assays per protocol and donor.